# REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE CARROLL COUNTY SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2014 TAXES

For The Period April 16, 2014 Through April 15, 2015



# ADAM H. EDELEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

# AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE CARROLL COUNTY SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2014 TAXES

# For The Period April 16, 2014 Through April 15, 2015

The Auditor of Public Accounts has completed the audit of the Sheriff's Settlement - 2014 Taxes for the Carroll County Sheriff for the period April 16, 2014 through April 15, 2015. We have issued an unmodified opinion on the financial statement taken as a whole. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement is presented fairly in all material respects.

# **Financial Condition:**

The Sheriff collected taxes of \$6,347,705 for the districts for 2014 taxes, retaining commissions of \$213,883 to operate the Sheriff's office. The Sheriff distributed taxes of \$6,132,293 to the districts for 2014 taxes. Taxes of \$55 are due to the districts from the Sheriff and refunds of \$19 are due to the Sheriff from the taxing districts.

# **Report Comment:**

2014-001 The Sheriff's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Tax Receipts

# **Deposits:**

The Sheriff's deposits on November 6, 2014 were exposed to custodial credit risk as follows:

• Uncollateralized and Uninsured \$534,762

The Sheriff's deposits were covered by FDIC insurance and a properly executed collateral security agreement, but the bank did not adequately collateralize the Sheriff's deposits in accordance with the security agreement.

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# ADAM H. EDELEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Matthew G. Bevin, Governor
William M. Landrum III, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
Honorable Bobby Lee Westrick, Carroll County Judge/Executive
Honorable Jamie Kinman, Carroll County Sheriff
Members of the Carroll County Fiscal Court

# **Independent Auditor's Report**

# **Report on the Financial Statement**

We have audited the Carroll County Sheriff's Settlement - 2014 Taxes for the period April 16, 2014 through April 15, 2015 - regulatory basis, and the related notes to the financial statement.

# Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting as described in Note 1. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

# **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the <u>Audit Guide for Sheriff's Tax Settlements</u> issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statement. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



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# Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1 of the financial statement, the financial statement is prepared by the County Sheriff on the basis of the accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

# Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles paragraph, the financial statement referred to above does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of each fund of the County Sheriff, as of April 15, 2015, or changes in financial position or cash flows thereof for the year then ended.

# **Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting**

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the taxes charged, credited, and paid for the period April 16, 2014 through April 15, 2015 of the Carroll County Sheriff, in accordance with the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky as described in Note 1.

# Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated October 16, 2015 on our consideration of the Carroll County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Carroll County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> in considering the Carroll County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Matthew G. Bevin, Governor
William M. Landrum III, Secretary
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Honorable Jamie Kinman, Carroll County Sheriff
Members of the Carroll County Fiscal Court

# Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards (Continued)

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying comment and recommendation, included herein, which discusses the following report comment:

2014-001 The Sheriff's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Tax Receipts

Respectfully submitted,

Adam H. Edelen

Auditor of Public Accounts

October 16, 2015

# CARROLL COUNTY JAMIE KINMAN, SHERIFF SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2014 TAXES

For The Period April 16, 2014 Through April 15, 2015

Special

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<u>Charges</u>	Cou	inty Taxes	Ta	xing Districts	Sc	chool Taxes	S1	ate Taxes
Real Estate	\$	152,635	\$	1,007,569	\$	2,699,724	\$	770,060
Tangible Personal Property	Ψ	102,037	Ψ	177,735	Ψ	377,470	Ψ	370,415
Fire Protection		447		177,735		377,170		370,113
Franchise Taxes		95,621		229,542		594,123		
Additional Billings		9		25		93		31
Limestone, Sand and Gravel Reserves		95		457		1,681		362
Penalties		1,135		5,062		13,920		2,839
Adjusted to Sheriff's Receipt		12		1_		<u> </u>		,
Gross Chargeable to Sheriff		351,991		1,420,391		3,687,011		1,143,707
Credits								
Exonerations		305		1,796		5,189		1,375
Discounts		4,317		17,868		47,514		18,805
Delinquents:		1,00		,		, :		,
Real Estate		4,532		31,219		80,024		17,249
Tangible Personal Property		2,133		2,622		7,891		5,574
Franchise Taxes		821		1,538		4,623		, 
Total Credits		12,108		55,043		145,241		43,003
Taxes Collected		339,883		1,365,348		3,541,770		1,100,704
Less: Commissions *		14,445		46,405		106,253		46,780
Taxes Due		225 429		1 210 042		2 425 517		1.052.024
Taxes Due Taxes Paid		325,438 325,279		1,318,943 1,318,586		3,435,517 3,434,600		1,053,924 1,053,828
Refunds (Current and Prior Year)		165		302		930		96
Due Districts or (Refunds Due Sheriff)								
as of Completion of Audit	\$	(6)	\$	55	\$	(13)	\$	0
as of Completion of Audit	Ψ	(0)	Φ	33	φ	(13)	φ	

<sup>\*</sup> and \*\* See next page.

CARROLL COUNTY JAMIE KINMAN, SHERIFF SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2014 TAXES For The Period April 16, 2014 Through April 15, 2015 (Continued)

# \* Commissions:

4.25% on \$ 2,448,328 3% on \$ 3,541,769 1% on \$ 357,608

# \*\* Special Taxing Districts:

Library District	\$	36
Health District		19
	•	
Due Districts	\$	55

# CARROLL COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

April 15, 2015

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

# A. Fund Accounting

The Sheriff's office tax collection duties are limited to acting as an agent for assessed property owners and taxing districts. A fund is used to account for the collection and distribution of taxes. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

# B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement has been prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky and is a special purpose framework. Basis of accounting refers to when charges, credits, and taxes paid are reported in the settlement statement. It relates to the timing of measurements regardless of the measurement focus.

Charges are sources of revenue which are recognized in the tax period in which they become available and measurable. Credits are reductions of revenue which are recognized when there is proper authorization. Taxes paid are uses of revenue which are recognized when distributions are made to the taxing districts and others.

### C. Cash and Investments

KRS 66.480 authorizes the Sheriff's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

#### Note 2. Deposits

The Carroll County Sheriff maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the Sheriff and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution.

# Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the Sheriff's deposits may not be returned. The Carroll County Sheriff does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather follows the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). On November 6, 2014, the Sheriff's bank balance was exposed to custodial credit risk because the bank did not adequately collateralize the Sheriff's deposits in accordance with the security agreement.

Uncollateralized and Uninsured \$534,762

CARROLL COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT April 15, 2015 (Continued)

# Note 3. Tax Collection Period

The real and personal property tax assessments were levied as of January 1, 2014. Property taxes were billed to finance governmental services for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. Liens are effective when the tax bills become delinquent. The collection period for these assessments was September 2, 2014 through April 15, 2015.

# Note 4. Interest Income

The Carroll County Sheriff earned \$591 as interest income on 2014 taxes. The Sheriff was in substantial compliance with his statutory responsibility regarding interest.

#### Note 5. Sheriff's 10% Add-On Fee

The Carroll County Sheriff collected \$19,318 of 10% add-on fees allowed by KRS 134.119(7). This amount was used to operate the Sheriff's office.



REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS



# ADAM H. EDELEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable Bobby Lee Westrick, Carroll County Judge/Executive Honorable Jamie Kinman, Carroll County Sheriff Members of the Carroll County Fiscal Court

> Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

# Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the Carroll County Sheriff's Settlement - 2014 Taxes for the period April 16, 2014 through April 15, 2015 - regulatory basis and the related notes to the financial statement and have issued our report thereon dated October 16, 2015. The Sheriff's financial statement is prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky and is a special purpose framework.

# **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statement, we considered the Carroll County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Carroll County Sheriff's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Carroll County Sheriff's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statement will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, which is described in the accompanying comment and recommendation as item 2014-001 that we consider to be a significant deficiency.



Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards (Continued)

# **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Carroll County Sheriff's financial statement is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

# **Purpose of this Report**

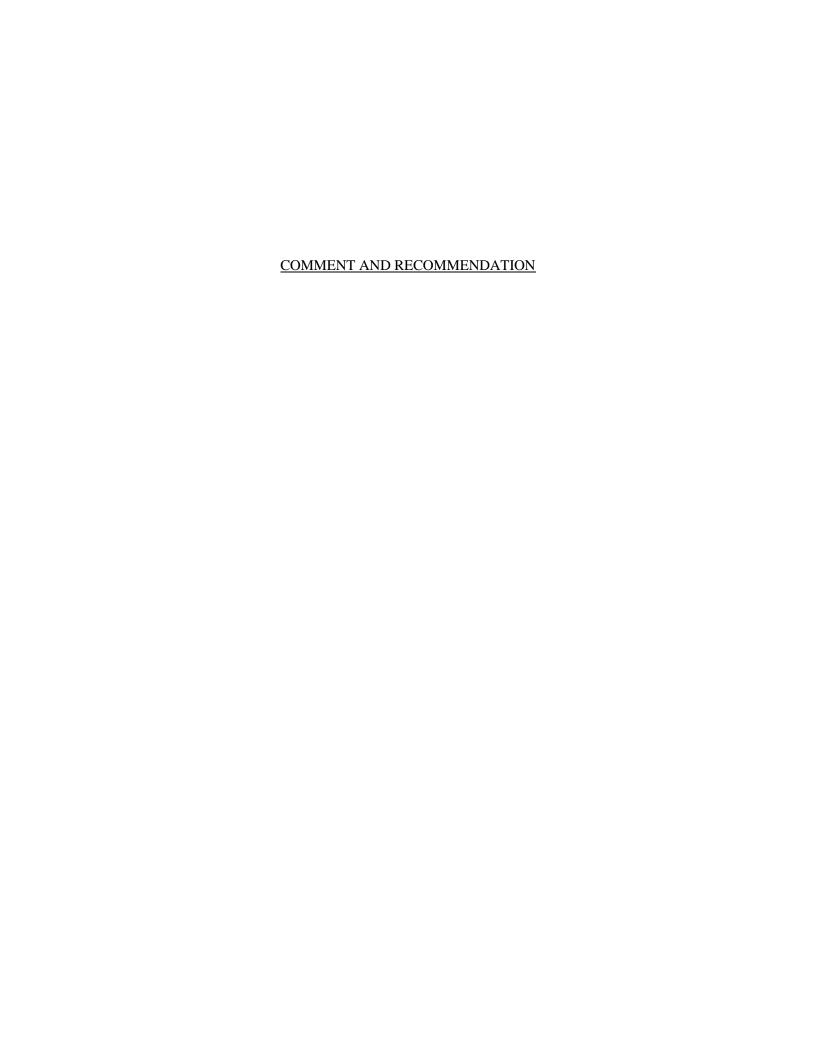
The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam H. Edelen

**Auditor of Public Accounts** 

October 16, 2015



# CARROLL COUNTY JAMIE KINMAN, SHERIFF COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

For The Period April 16, 2014 Through April 15, 2015

# <u>INTERNAL CONTROL - SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY:</u>

2014-001 The Sheriff's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Tax Receipts

The Sheriff's office lacks adequate segregation of duties over tax receipts because the bookkeeper collects cash, prepares deposit tickets, takes deposits to the bank, and posts receipts to the ledger. The Sheriff has assigned another office staff person to compare daily tax collection cash and check totals to the deposit ticket before it is taken to the bank; however, this review process has not been documented. Proper segregation of duties over receipts is essential for providing protection against asset misappropriation and/or inaccurate financial reporting. Additionally, proper segregation of duties protects employees in the normal course of performing their daily responsibilities. To adequately protect employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions and to protect the Sheriff against asset misappropriation and/or inaccurate financial reporting, we recommend the Sheriff separate the duties in preparing and depositing receipts, recording transactions, and preparing reports and bank reconciliations. If these duties cannot be segregated, strong oversight should be provided over the responsible employee. The employee providing oversight should document their review by initialing source documents.

Sheriff's Response: None.